RCMP View in $43,000 Loss

Gems Never Left U.S.

RCMP in Victoria, investigating disappearance of jewelry valued at $43,000 between Seattle and Patricia Bay airports last Feb. 5, feel sure that the jewels never left the United States.

This statement came yesterday following disclosure of the disappearance — a matter under close investigation by RCMP, the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, CNR claims department and insurance adjusters.

Until yesterday their work had been kept under wraps.

The gems, contained in a jewel case within an overnight bag, were the property of Mrs. J. F. M. Kennedy, wife of a London, Ont., doctor.

At Seattle-Tacoma airport Mrs. Kennedy transferred from a United Airlines plane to TCA for the flight to Victoria, and at the Seattle airport she rechecked the three bags she had with her.

On arrival at Patricia Bay, Mrs. Kennedy presented her three claim checks to customs officials, but there were only two bags.

At the time Mrs. Kennedy indicated the missing overnight bag contained only overnight effects. Two days later, while staying at the Oak Bay Beach Hotel, she advised TCA that the bag contained jewelry, which she valued at $30,500.

A subsequent check with the insurance company raised the value to $43,000. All the missing jewels are insured.

FBI spokesmen in Seattle say they are sure it was a theft, but RCMP officials say there are several possibilities.

Major items among the missing jewels are an eight-carat single-stone diamond ring with agates, valued at $16,750; a diamond-and-emerald clip set, $8,250; a diamond-and-emerald ring, $4,500; a diamond-set watch, $1,150.

Setback

VANCOUVER (CP)—Dr. Einer Johnson, consultant in orthopedic surgery at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Min., said here Thursday that Vancouver would be set back 100 years if an atom bomb were to fall on it.

For Gold Centenary Medal

Coin Society Honored

Victoria Numismatic Society has been given a special award of merit by the British Columbia Centennial Committee for its production of the gold centenary medal presented to Princess Margaret during her visit to Victoria.

The special award is one of only 60 presented by the centennial committee.

Stabbing Suspect 'Insane'

Leslie Hegedus, 22, of Port Alberni, charged by city police with the stabbing on Feb. 18 of Mrs. Janosne Horvath, 1325 May, was ruled insane and unfit to stand trial, at a hearing in city police court yesterday.

Ruling by Magistrate Henry C. Hall followed medical testimony by Dr. D. E. Alcorn, a psychiatrist, and Dr. N. R. Stewart, an intern, both of whom had examined Hegedus.

Hegedus, charged with assault causing bodily harm, was receiving psychiatric treatment at the time of the offence, and had been given a "night out" by the hospital.

Hegedus will be committed to a mental institution.

Pensioners' Meeting

Monthly meeting of the Old-Age Pensioners' Organization, Victoria branch No. 5, will be held at 1.30 p.m. Wednesday at 512 Fort.

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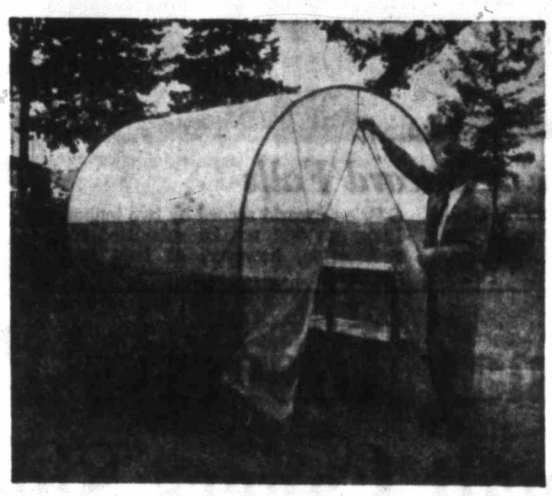
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